**Aboriginal Mosaic**

1. Students will be read the history of Aboriginal people.

2. Have the students look on a map and identify the areas of Aboriginal culture.

3. Have students go to the website below to look at samples of Aboriginal art. (**Mosaic** is the art of creating images with an assemblage of small pieces of colored glass, stone, or other materials.)

4. Copy a few pages from the Coloring book and have the students color a mosaic.

5. Write their name on the back of the mosaic and write Aboriginal on the back as well.

**Indigenous Australians** are the original inhabitants of the Australian continent and nearby islands, and these peoples' descendants. Indigenous Australians are distinguished as either Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders, who currently together make up about 2.7% of Australia's population.

The Torres Strait Islanders are indigenous to the Torres Strait Islands which are at the northern-most tip of Queensland near Papua New Guinea. The term "Aboriginal" has traditionally been applied to indigenous inhabitants of mainland Australia, Tasmania, and some of the other adjacent islands. The use of the term is becoming less common, with names preferred by the various groups becoming more common.

There is great diversity among different Indigenous communities and societies in Australia, each with its own unique mixture of cultures, customs and languages. In present day Australia these groups are further divided into local communities.

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bathurst_Island_men.jpg)Although there were over 250-300 spoken languages with 600 dialects at the start of European settlement, fewer than 200 of these remain in use, and all but 20 are considered to be endangered. Aborigines today mostly speak English, with Aboriginal phrases and words being added to create Australian Aboriginal English.